

Review of NTP Contracts

Recently allegations were raised by an outside group about business relationships and potential conflict of interest of the contractor for the NTP Center for the Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction (CERHR), Sciences International, Inc. The timing of these allegations occurred before the March 5-7, 2007, meeting of the CERHR expert panel on bisphenol A. NTP removed the contractor from participation at that meeting and subsequently conducted a thorough review of the allegations. The expert panel did not complete its deliberations on bisphenol A at the March meeting and will reconvene August 6-8, 2007, at the Hilton Alexandria Old Town, Alexandria, Virginia to complete this evaluation. The interim draft expert panel report from the March meeting is posted on the CERHR website at URL:

<http://cerhr.niehs.nih.gov/chemicals/bisphenol/bisphenol.html>

Public comment is invited on the interim draft report until June 20, 2007.

NTP has issued two statements with regard to Sciences International and CERHR ([see attached](#)). NTP has convened a working group of the NTP Board of Scientific Counselors to evaluate existing NTP contracts to assess potential conflicts of interest, consider what recommendations should be applied to reduce the potential for conflicts of interest to occur, and address how to mitigate any current or future ones. A roster of the working group members is attached. The working group will present its report to the NTP Board of Scientific Counselors at the June 22 meeting for discussion and action. The accepted report will be forwarded to the Director, NIEHS and NTP, by July 1.